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INFORMATION REPORT

GP NO

COUNTRY Yugoslavia

DATE DISR 20 MAR 51

SUBJECT Cominform Strength in Yugoslavia

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1. Most old-time Communists in Yugoslavia are pro-Cominform, and they hold down many positions some of which are very important. Without a doubt, they represent a serious and very dangerous destructive element in Tito's regime.
2. The Cominformists are also well organized in the Yugoslav Army, and there is considerable propaganda in the ranks in their favor. It is believed the Yugoslav Army, under the military and Party leadership afforded by Tito, could not offer serious resistance in case of attack. In Yugoslavia the general public discontent also engulfs the Army, which would probably disband under the first wave of attack. It is estimated that at least half of the High Command is also pro-Cominform.
3. Under other leadership than that of Tito, who is detested by the people, the great majority of the Yugoslav Army would fight the Soviets or Satellites with enthusiasm since they have had a taste of the Soviets and Soviet Communism. The current situation under Tito could be changed only if a few hundred Allied paratroopers were dropped into Yugoslavia at the outbreak of hostilities.
4. A UDB leader in Belgrade, as well as a number of former political leaders, recently were approached with great circumspection by Cominformists who sought to incite them against Tito and in favor of the Soviets.

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